

**ENGINEERING SERVICES
CODES COMMITTEE
REVIEW SUMMARY**

REFERENCE: Fax dated April 15, 1999 from Candace Tsingine (Navajo Area Indian Health Service) to Michael Verschelden (Engineering Services – Dallas)

ISSUE: The A.I.A. Hospital and Health Care Facilities Guidelines state that Locker spaces shall not open directly into a food preparation area. A code interpretation is requested for what exactly does “open directly into the food preparation areas” mean.

LOCATION: Tuba City Indian Medical Center
Tuba City, Arizona

BACKGROUND: The Tuba City Indian Medical Center is undergoing a renovation in the dietary area. The present location of the nutritionist’s office will become the new dietary locker room. The distance between the locker room door and the food preparation area is approximately 64 feet. The Navajo Area Project Manager requested clarification about exactly what “opening into the food prep area: is. This was in regards to the distance required between the dietary locker room and the food preparation area.

DISCUSSION: *The A.I.A. Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospital and Health Care Facilities, 1996-1997 edition Chapter 7.18.B16 discusses toilets and locker spaces. It says, “Spaces (meaning toilets and locker spaces) shall be provided for the exclusive use of the dietary staff. They shall not open directly into the food preparation areas, but must be in close proximity to them.”*

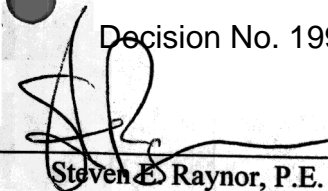
INTERPRETATION: The Tuba City Indian Medical Center is providing locker spaces for the dietary staff. The locker room does not open directly into the food preparation area but is down the hall approximately 64 feet away. This meets the intention of the design guidelines.

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